



August 13, 1980

NUMBER 1338.5

ASD(MRA&L)

Department of Defense Directive

SUBJECT: Armed Forces Clothing Monetary Allowance Policy

References : (a) DoD Directive 1338.5, "Armed Forces Clothing Monetary Allowance Policies and Regulations, " October 14, 1976 (hereby canceled)
(b) Title 37, United States Code, Section 418
(c) Executive Order 10113, "De legat ing the Authority of the President to Prescribe Clothing Allowances , and Cash "Allowances In Lieu Thereof, for Enlisted Men in the Armed Forces," February 24, 1950

A. REISSUANCE AND PURPOSE

This Directive reissues reference (a) to reflect current policy on the Armed Forces clothing monetary allowances.

B. APPLICABILITY

The provisions of this Directive apply to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and to the Military Departments (including their National Guard and reserve components). As used herein, the term "Military Services" refers to the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

C. AUTHORITY

Reference (b) states that the President may prescribe the quantity and kind of clothing to be furnished annually to an enlisted member of the Armed Forces, and may prescribe the amount of cash allowance to be paid to a member if clothing is not furnished. This authority was delegated to the Secretary of Defense by reference (c).

D. POLICY

1. It is the policy of the Department of Defense that a uniform system of providing individual clothing be maintained for the enlisted **personnel** of the Armed Forces. Quantities and items of individual clothing to be furnished shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Military Department concerned, with the approval of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) (ASD(MRA&L)).

2. An initial clothing allowance shall be furnished each enlistee upon first enlistment or induction into the Armed Forces.

3. A basic cash clothing maintenance allowance **shall** be paid to each enlisted person after the first 6 months of service and continue during the remainder of the first 3 years of continuous active duty. This allowance is 70 percent of the standard cash clothing maintenance allowance.

4. A standard cash clothing maintenance allowance shall be paid to each enlistee after 3 years of active duty. The maintenance allowances are to provide sufficient funds, over a period of time, for replacement of required items of clothing that are prescribed for wear by the respective Service Secretaries. They are not intended to cover the cost of repair, dry cleaning, or laundering of clothing.

5. The basic and standard allowances shall be based on current Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) prices and the estimated useful life of required clothing. Items not uniquely military and exercise items issued primarily for use during initial training shall be excluded from the maintenance allowance computations. Items not uniquely military represent costs that would be incurred whether or not enlisted personnel were required to wear a military uniform, such as underwear, handkerchiefs, and towels.

6. Enlisted personnel upon assignment to a tour of duty or attainment of a status that requires the wearing of individual uniform clothing (other than special dress uniforms) different from that of the uniforms customarily required for the majority of enlisted personnel of the same Military Service may be authorized a special initial clothing allowance. It shall be authorized only once during any period of continuous active duty.

7. Enlisted personnel may be authorized a supplemental clothing allowance when they are assigned to duty wherein they are required to have, for the performance of such duty, additional quantities or special items of individual uniform clothing not normally required for the majority of enlisted personnel in the same Military Service. The supplementary clothing allowance is in addition to any other clothing allowance that the enlisted person may otherwise be authorized.

8. Enlisted personnel who are required by competent authority to wear civilian clothing in the performance of official duty may be authorized an initial allowance for civilian clothing.

9. Special purpose individual clothing required for support of personnel in the accomplishment of assigned duties shall be carried as organizational issue. Organizational clothing includes special distinctive uniforms such as those required for Military Service bands or mounted troops. No monetary credits or payments are provided to enlisted personnel for obtaining or replacing these items since they are furnished under the issue-in-kind system.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) shall:

a. Serve as the focal point on all matters concerning Armed Forces clothing monetary allowances.

b. Issue and maintain a DoD Instruction that provides procedures whereby enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces are furnished an initial issue of individual uniform clothing adequate for the performance of their assigned duties, and a monthly allowance for the maintenance of the initial issue.

Aug 13, 80
1338.5

c. Annually, not later than October 1, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (ASD(C)), prescribe initial allowances against which initial issues are debited, and **thereafter**, a cash maintenance allowance for initial clothing replacement. (This allowance **shall** be paid monthly under regulations prescribed by each Military Service.)

2. The Director, Defense Logistics Agency, shall establish prices for the individual items of clothing prescribed by the Service Secretaries. An itemized list of prescribed clothing reflecting DLA prices shall be provided to the ASD(C), ASD(MRA&L), and the appropriate Service Secretaries during the first week in December prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Under normal circumstances, the DLA prices shall remain firm through the year to which the clothing allowances pertain. Any additions or substitutions to the Military Service requirement subsequent to December shall **be priced** by DLA, using the best estimates available at the time the change is made.

3. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall provide proposed annual changes to their clothing allowances to ASD(MRA&L) not later than July 1 prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, based upon adjustments in authorized clothing items priced at DLA rates.

F. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective October 1, 1980. Forward two copies of implementing documents to the Assistant Secretary of Defense [Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics) within 120 days.



W. Graham Claytor, Jr.
Deputy Secretary of Defense